



Green Mountain National Forest Rochester and Middlebury Ranger Districts Travel Analysis Process

Introduction to the Travel Analysis Process

The USDA Forest Service manages approximately 250 miles of National Forest System (NFS) roads on the Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF) including 115 miles located on the Rochester and Middlebury Ranger Districts. While many Forest roads provide land management- and user-related benefits, some may also pose risks to forest resources. Increased use of an aging roads infrastructure increases safety and maintenance costs, impacts wildlife, and contributes to degradation of water quality.



Over the past several years, even as maintenance needs have increased, funding to maintain NFS roads across the country has decreased dramatically. The goal of the national Travel Analysis Process is to define safe, fiscally feasible minimum road systems that provide the greatest benefit to the largest number of visitors with the least risk to the environment.

2005 Travel Management Rule - Subpart A: "The Road Study"

The Travel Management Analysis Process begins with a study of the existing NFS roads that will be used to inform future decisions regarding the road system. Although the entire GMNF road system will eventually be studied, our initial focus will be on roads located on the Rochester and Middlebury Ranger Districts. Our final report will identify a road system that considers access for management activities and the public, minimizes environmental impacts, and can be maintained within budget constraints. This effort is only an information-gathering study, not a decision-making process, and will help guide the Forest Service in planning for a sustainable road system into the future.

What You Can Do to Help

We invite you to review the road system with us to help recommend opportunities that lead to a safe, affordable and environmentally sustainable road system. We encourage anyone who uses NFS roads to access, use or enjoy the GMNF to share information and ideas regarding any road that may be important to you.

How to Provide Your Input

You may submit your input in writing **by June 27, 2014** through any of the following methods c/o Brian Austin, Forest Civil Engineer (input should be identified as "Rochester/Middlebury Travel Management Analysis"):

- Postal Mail: USDA Forest Service, 231 N. Main Street, Rutland, VT 05701
- Email: comments-eastern-green-mt-finger-lakes-rochester@fs.fed.us
- FAX: (802) 747-6766

For any questions or information, you may contact Brian Austin at 802-747-6757.

